

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 032744
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-08 L-03 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PRS-01 USIA-06 PA-01
/063 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL:PAW
APPROVED BY P:PHABIB
NEA:ALATHERTON - S/S:SGOLDSMITH
EB/AVP:AJWHITE
L/PM:SORLINS
PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL
INR/DDC:EBROWN (SUBS)
L/EB:PMICKEY

-----130249Z 025726 /62

R 130237Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 032744

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, LY, US

SUBJECT: PROTEST TO LIBYA OVER NAVY AIRCRAFT INCIDENT

REF: TRIPOLI 196

1. DEPARTMENT NOT REPEAT NOT PREPARED TO ALLOW LIBYAN
ASSERTION OF PROHIBITED ZONE OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS TO
GO UNCHALLENGED. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO
DELIVER FOLLOWING NOTE TO MFA.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REFERS TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE OF FEBRUARY 7, 1977, CON-
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PAGE 02 STATE 032744

CERNING THE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN A UNITED STATES MILITARY
AIRCRAFT AND LIBYAN AIR FORCE PLANES ON JANUARY 27.

3. THE U.S. AIRCRAFT AT NO TIME APPROACHED CLOSER THAN
53 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE LIBYAN COAST AND AT THE TIME IT
WAS INTERCEPTED BY THE LIBYAN PLANES WAS 75 NAUTICAL MILES
OFF LIBYAN SHORES. THE U.S. CONSIDERS THAT THE AMERICAN

AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION WAS EXERCISING THE FREEDOM TO FLY OVER
THE HIGH SEAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE
UNITED STATES DOES NOT CONSIDER THAT ANY NATION MAY VALIDLY
PURPORT TO SUBJECT ANY PART OF THE HIGH SEAS, OR THE
AIRSPACE OVER THE HIGH SEAS, TO ITS SOVEREIGNTY, NOR TO

ESTABLISH PROHIBITED AREAS OF THE KIND REFERRED TO IN THE
MINISTRY'S NOTE. MOREOVER, THE US CONSIDERS THAT THE
AIRCRAFT OF THE LIBYAN AIR FORCE THAT FLEW DANGEROUSLY
CLOSE TO THE AMERICAN AIRCRAFT FAILED TO PAY REASONABLE
REGARD TO THE INTERESTS OF ALL STATES IN THE EXERCISE
OF THE FREEDOM OF THE HIGH SEAS,
IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL LAW, AIRSPACE, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE032744
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WSWEISLOGEL:PAW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770051-0477
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770246/aaaaboob.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TRIPOLI 196
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3333574
Secure: OPEN
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